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VIA EXPRESS MAIL CENT: ER000712828US
DATE OF DEPOSIT: MAY 13, 2003

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Anne Vachon Dougherty 5/13/03
Signature & Date



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of : May 13, 2003
V. Castelli, et al : Group Art No.: 2172
Serial No. 09/237,646 : Examiner: C. Truong
Filed: January 26, 1999 : for IBM Corporation
Anne Vachon Dougherty
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS 3173 Cedar Road
FOR SIMILARITY RETRIEVAL Yorktown Heights, NY 10598
FROM ITERATIVE REFINEMENT

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated February 13, 2003 for the above-identified patent application. The response is being filed within the three month statutory period for response and no additional fee is due.

In response to the Office Action, Applicants wish to submit the amendments and remarks found below.